A Nation Emerges Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Outlining the *Declaration of Independence***

Use the form below to create an outline of the major ideas expressed in the Declaration. You can find a good version of it here (also linked on our class website): <http://americainclass.org/sources/makingrevolution/rebellion/text8/decindep.pdf>

**Part I: Preamble**

1. For what reason(s) did Thomas Jefferson write the Declaration?

**Part II: Statement of Beliefs**

1. What rights, according to Jefferson, do all “men” possess?
2. Why do we have governments? Where do governments get their authority?
3. What should people do if their government does not fulfill its primary purpose?
4. Should the people take the step (from question 4) for just minor reasons?

**Part III: List of Grievances**

1. Who is the accused perpetrator of most of these grievances?
2. Summarize a few of the grievances that you think represented the most egregious abuses of the the colonists’ perceived natural and civil rights?

**Part IV: Prior Efforts to Fix the Situation**

1. What steps have colonists already take to regain make the King and the British people aware of these abuses?

**Part V: Statement of Intent**

1. What are Jefferson (and the other members of the Congress) now declaring about the political status of the colonies?
2. What political powers does this new nation now claim to possess?

**Bonus question:**

Of the 56 men who eventually signed the Declaration, who has the coolest/funniest name? (There are really only two possible options here.)